

of these species do not differ. The meso- and metasterni as well as the prosternum of both sexes are spinose in both species. The thorax of *victoriae* is very little elevated posteriorly, often scarcely at all. The basal spine of the anterior tibia of *spinosa* is often broken off, represented only by a scar.

The females of the two species show the following measurements:

Rehnia victoriae.

Length: pronotum, 8 mm.; clytra, 14 mm.; hind femora, 30–32 mm.; ovipositor, 35–38 mm.; width: pronotum at posterior border, 4 mm.; hind femora at widest part, 3.5–4 mm.

Rehnia spinosa.

Length: pronotum, 10.5–11 mm.; clytra, 21–22 mm.; hind femora, 39–40 mm.; ovipositor, 45–46 mm.; width: pronotum at posterior border, 7 mm.; hind femora at widest part, 5–5.5 mm.

SPIDERS IN WINTER FLOODS.— On February 10, 1909, there was a heavy rain which flooded low fields and the borders of swamps and ponds, and on the 12th I went to Tyngsboro, Mass., and joined Mr. Frederick Blanchard in a hunt for Spiders and Coleoptera on the ice. The thermometer had fallen to 14 in the night but the day was calm and became slowly warmer. In the open fields the water had partly drained away leaving thin ice on which spiders were scattered, most of them being near the line of dust that marked the highest water. On the larger ponds and swamps they were still more numerous around the banks and along lines of rubbish that had floated together on the ice. A few had died and were frozen in the ice, others were frozen down by the feet but were still alive and thawed out later in the day. Nearly all, however, were free in the ice, which along the edges of the floods had frozen under them. They were too cold to move but as the air became warmer revived and groped slowly about without any definite direction. By noon some of them became quite active and climbed grass and bushes and spun threads, the thermometer at this time being 35 in the shade and 40 to 50 in the sun. The most active species was the little *Tmeticus terrestris*, which was abundant in a maple swamp on the ice and in bushes up to a foot from the ground. The greater number of spiders were young Lycodidae of all the common species. With the spiders were great

numbers of Coleoptera and several species of Diptera. Following is a list of the spiders.

Adults. *Pachygnatha brevis*, *Pedanostethus riparius*, *Pholcomma rostrata*, *Ceratinella lactabilis*, *Cornicularia indirecta*, *Grammonata ornata*, *Tmeticus plumosus*, *Tmeticus terrestris*, *Tmeticus concavus*, *Erigone dentigera*, *Bathypantes zebra*, *Diplostyla nigrina*.

Immature. *Singa variabilis*, *Linyphia clathrata*, *Tetragnatha extensa*, *Asagera americana* *Pirata piraticus*, *Pardosa nigrapalpis*, *Pardosa glacialis*, *Lycosa prondicola*, *Lycosa kochii*, *Lycosa relucens*, *Lycosa lepida*, *Gnaphosa conspersa*, *Prosthemia atra*, *Xysticus umbatus*, *Dalomedes sexpunctatus*.

J. H. EMERTON.

A NEW VARIETY OF THE GEOMETRID MOTH *THERINA FISCELLARIA* GN.

BY L. W. SWETT, MALDEN, MASS.

Therina fiscellaria peccataria n. var.

This is a good variety of *T. fiscellaria* Gn. which occurs late in the fall.

Expands 33-35 mm. Head ochre, with a tinge of orange. Palpi yellow, tipped with dark hairs, very short. Thorax golden yellow, as are all wings. Abdomen a little lighter yellow than thorax. Fore wings golden yellow minutely speckled with dark atoms; basal line curved outwardly like a bow from costa to inner margin, shaded inwardly with a deep smoky color much the same as the general color of *athasaria* Walk. Between basal line and extradiscal line, light golden yellow, with prominent linear discal spot. Extradiscal line runs straight from costa for 2 mm., then suddenly turns at an angle opposite the discal spot on median vein, whence it bends back to the fourth vein and then runs straight to inner margin. The basal and extradiscal line are fairly broad and shaded inwardly with a smoky tinge, and outwardly almost to border of wing, except at apex, which is in all my examples golden yellow, the smoky shading being especially broad at inner margin. Hind wings clear golden yellow to median brown line, which has a prominent angle opposite the fifth vein. This line is shaded outwardly with a smoky color nearly to edge of wing, it being widest near inner angle.